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SUBJECT: ESTONIA'S REACTION TO NEW AFGHANISTAN
COUNTERNARCOTICS STRATEGY

REF: A) STATE 110089

(SBU) On August 8, we delivered reftel points to Arti Hilpus, MFA Director for Security and Arms Control Policy, on the rollout of the new Afghanistan counter-narcotics strategy. On August 15, we met with Hilpus and provided an additional briefing. Hilpus thanked us for the briefing and told us that the Government of Estonia (GOE) considers the new strategy timely and appropriate. However, Hilpus cautioned us that "the question of possible aerial spraying of poppies should be approached with extreme caution," as Estonian troops are participating in a UK-led PRT in Helmand province, the epicenter of Afghanistan's poppy production.

PHILLIPS